

**WELCOME TO THE
AWF/ ALABAMA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD WILD GAME COOK-OFF**

GUIDELINES

Hopefully, the following information will answer most of your questions....

- 1) A cooking team may consist of a group of individuals, a couple, or a single individual. A team may represent a corporation (bank, hunting camp, etc.), restaurant, or simply be a local cook. Teams may have up to 4 members and all 4 members will receive a one year complimentary AWF membership. You must fill out a cook team form to compete and to get your complimentary AWF membership. Each team is encouraged to help sell 5 tickets to the event.
- 2) **AWF Wild Game Cook-Offs are a celebration of the game animals, game birds, and game fish that can be harvested and utilized for food. Therefore, “Wild Game” is defined as fish, fowl, or game that can be found in the wild of North America. We are also celebrating the people who harvest and/or utilize Wild Game for food. Teams are strongly encouraged to utilize fish, fowl or game that they have harvested themselves or have been harvested by other hunters and anglers. However, use of fish, fowl, or game species that are also commercially available does not result in disqualification.**
- 3) There will be trophies awarded for first, second, and third place in three categories: fish, fowl, and game. There will also be an award for “Best Overall”.
- 4) **Teams may enter up to one (1) dish in each regular category) but a single team can only win 1st place in one category (see Goals of Wild Game Cook-Offs on reverse side). If a team’s highest scoring dish wins one of the three categories, it will be in the running for “Best Overall”.**
- 5) **The Award for “Best Overall” will go to the cook team with the highest scoring individual dish.** Dishes will be judged on taste and originality with taste weighted more heavily. Originality includes imagination, uniqueness, and difficulty of the dish. The “Best Overall” winner earns the right to compete for the title “State Champion” at AWF headquarters in Millbrook at the conclusion of the season.
- 6) **To be eligible for Cook Team Awards the teams are asked to provide to the public at least 100 “Bite Sized” samples of any dish submitted to the judges.**
- 7) A “Best Presentation Award” will go to the cook team with the best decorations and presentation for their cook team area that best reflects the atmosphere of a “Wild Game” Cook-Off. This award will be judged on effort, creativity, and originality. A runner-up award will also be given. Scoring for this category is separate from and has no impact on the judging of fish, fowl, or game dishes submitted to the food judges. All teams are considered for the “Best Presentation Award” regardless of how their dishes score or place in the three categories.
- 8) The Alabama Army National Guard is our title sponsor and will also be awarding a special **“People’s Choice” Award** which is voted on by the general public.
- 9) **Judging takes place prior to the event opening to the public at a time determined by the local committee. Due to the number of cook teams and entries, the time that a particular cook team’s entry is picked up will vary. AWF will make every effort to communicate with the teams as to when their dish will be picked up.**

GUIDELINES CONTINUED

Access is available to the Cook-Off site on the day of the event for any participants who wish to set up for roasting, smoking, etc. Some participants may prefer to cook their entries at other locations and simply warm or reheat the dishes at the Cook-Off site.

AWF will provide the following:

1. **One** 6ft.or 8ft. table.
2. Tablecloths, paper napkins, small Styrofoam plates, Styrofoam sample cups, sporks, toothpicks, paper towels, and Styrofoam bowls.
3. Food handler gloves, “Clorox water,” a jug of cold water and a cooler with ice are provided in accordance with State Health Department requirements.
4. AWF hats and aprons will be provided for up to four participants.
5. A Team Sign.

Cook-Off teams are responsible for bringing the following items to the site if necessary for their special wild game entry:

1. Grill, smoker or other cooking device.
2. Warmer such as a large pot or chafing dish with heat source.
3. Charcoal/propane or other fuel & matches. **Some power** is available at most cook-offs. Please **limit** your power needs, and let AWF staff know if you need power. Please bring ample extension cords and try to be as self sufficient as possible. **If you have access to a small generator please bring it.**
4. Serving utensils.
5. Chairs and additional tables if needed.

GOALS OF WILD GAME COOK-OFFS

1. **To demonstrate that responsible hunters and anglers properly utilize the game that they harvest and that game makes excellent and healthy table fare.**
2. **To provide an opportunity for AWF Members to interact and to introduce/attract New Members to AWF.**
3. **To generate funds to support the conservation mission of the AWF.**
4. **Accomplish the above goals in a fun, festive, friendly competitive manner and recognize as many cook teams as possible for their time, efforts, and expense – without which, the AWF Wild Game Cook-Offs would not be possible.**

The Alabama Wildlife Federation thanks you for your participation and support of the Wild Game Cook-Offs. The continued support of the cook teams vital to the success of AWF and our ability to help promote our hunting and angling heritage. If you have additional questions, please call Tommy Tidwell at 1-800-822-9453